

A.D. 66

Grievous Cards

GESSIUS FLORUS, a representative of the Roman emperor arrested some Jews from Caesarea. They were protesting that their synagogue had been desecrated by Greeks.

To add fuel to the fire, FLORUS took money from the Temple treasury.

Angered by this latest wrong, the ZEALOTS started an uprising. At first they were successful. So emperor

Nero sent out large numbers of troops
under command of VESPASIAN, his most
experienced general

66-73AD

During the Jewish revolt in the years 66-73AD, they crucified up to 500 Jews/day on the Mount of Olives until they ran out of wood and trees

AD 66-73

First Jewish War
erupted because of Jewish outrage over
Roman massacre, CESTIUS GALLUS,
governor of Syria, failed to restore
order in Jerusalem in 66 and the Jewish
Zealots interpreted his ignominious
retreat to his base at PTOLEMAIS (ACRE) as
a sign from God to summon the populace
to rebellion.

was married STATILIA MESSALINA,
but then took up with the boy
SPORUS because he resembled
Poppaea in appearance.

A second conspiracy was unmasked while Nero was on his way to Greece. Again leading Senators were implicated, including the distinguished general GNAEUS DOMITIVS CORBULO. Henceforth Nero said he hated all senators.

66 AD

FLORUS attempted to take
a large sum from the
Temple treasury, thus
precipitating the Jewish Revolt
which ended in 70 AD by
destruction of JERUSALEM

66AD-73AD

Revolt in Judea. Leads to
destruction of Jerusalem
and diaspora

66-70 AD

1912 Dates J-BK

Revolt of Jews against Rome.

The Olympic and Nemean Games were brought forward from their usual year for Nero's convenience and naturally carried off the prizes, though he also bribed the judges and best performers to be sure.

The future emperor Vespasian fell asleep during one of Nero's performances and was dismissed.

from his entourage

66AD

The First Jewish revolt was precipitated in AD 66 by a trivial dispute between Greek and Jewish communities living uneasily side by side in Caesarea. But this was no more than a superficial incident in an explosive chain of events.

66AD

Jude was written (according
to one authority)

66AD

The financial demands of FLORUS, who extracted a large sum from the Temple treasury in 66, which precipitated an anti-Roman demonstration and a bloody military raid, was followed by the Temple officials' decision to suspend the daily sacrifices offered on behalf of the emperor (and all Romans). This action placed the Jewish nation officially in rebellion against

come, for it violated a treaty with Rome.
At the same time, a Jewish revolutionary
force secured the surrender of the Roman
garrison at MASADA, but then
massacred the Roman soldiers.

Many events prepared the way for the Jewish revolt in 66, such as the execution of two Zealots under the procurator Alexander, the Jewish riots and civil war under COMANUS, the greed and plundering of FLORUS, and even the devastating fire in Rome in 64 which occasioned the disintegration of Nero's power and furthered unrest

throughout the empire. Some wanted to blame
Nero himself for the fire - an unlikely charge -
while Nero sought to blame foreigners. Jews
were not a likely target, however, for a Jewish
section of the city was also burned and the empress
POPPEA had protected the Jews since her
intervention for them against FESTUS.

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for their agreement Festus.

But Poppa died in 65 and the increasing Jewish nationalism and especially the revolutionary SICARII and ZEALOT movements led to the Jewish Roman Conflict in 66.

The Roman Prefect of Judaea was GESSIUS FLORUS, a man whose prime motive in life was to line his own pockets. He tried to rob the Temple treasury.

The Zealots, at once instigated a full-scale uprising in Jerusalem, in spite of all the efforts of both the Romans and their moderate allies among the Jews to quell it.

Chief among the allies was HEROD ARISTIPPUS II
king of CHALCIS and inland Syria, great grand-
son of Herod the Great; he was an observant
Jew and was respected alike by the Romans
and the Jewish population.

CESTIUS GALLUS, gov. of Syria led the first
attempt to crush the rebellion. He succeeded
in entering Jerusalem but the onset of
winter meant that his supply lines were
weak and he called off the offensive.
Jewish rebels ambushed his troops on the
homeward journey at BETH HORON just north
of Jerusalem.